

HORSE OF THE YEAR (1970-2021)

| Year | Winner Owner(s) | Trainer Jockey | Sire Bred (Color) | Year Record Grade I Wins |
|------|--|---|--|---|
| 2021 | Knicks Go (5h) Korea Racing Authority | Brad Cox Joel Rosario | Paynter Maryland (Gr or Ro.) | 7-5-0-0—\$7,324,140 Pegasus World Cup, Whitney, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2020 | Authentic (3c) Spendthrift Farm, MyRacehorse Stable, Madaket Stables and Starlight Racing | Bob Baffert John Velazquez/ Mike Smith/Drayden Van Dyke | Into Mischief Kentucky (B.) | 7-5-2-0—\$7,170,000 Haskell, Kentucky Derby, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2019 | Bricks and Mortar (5h) Klaravich Stables Inc. (Seth Klarman) & William H. Lawrence | Chad Brown Irad Ortiz Jr. | Giant's Causeway Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.) | 6-6-0-0—\$6,723,650 Pegasus World Cup Turf, Old Forester Turf Classic, Manhattan, Arlington Million, Breeders' Cup Turf |
| 2018 | Justify (3c) China Horse Club, Head of Plains Partners LLC, Starlight Racing & WinStar Farm | Bob Baffert Mike Smith/Drayden Van Dyke | Scat Daddy Kentucky (Ch.) | 6-6-0-0—\$3,798,000 Santa Anita Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Belmont |
| 2017 | Gun Runner (4c) Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC & Three Chimneys Farm | Steve Asmussen Florent Geroux | Candy Ride (ARG) Kentucky (Ch.) | 6-5-1-0—\$6,950,700 Stephen Foster Handicap, Whitney, Woodward, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2016 | California Chrome (5h) California Chrome LLC | Art Sherman Victor Espinoza | Lucky Pulpit California (Ch.) | 8-7-1-0—\$8,180,000 Dubai World Cup, Pacific Classic, Awesome Again |
| 2015 | American Pharoah (3c) Zayat Stables LLC (Ahmed Zayat) | Bob Baffert Victor Espinoza | Pioneerof the Nile Kentucky (B.) | 8-7-1-0— \$8,288,800 Arkansas Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Belmont, Haskell, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2014 | California Chrome (3c) Perry Martin & Steve Coburn | Art Sherman Victor Espinoza | Lucky Pulpit California (Ch.) | 9-6-0-1—\$4,007,800 Santa Anita Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Hollywood Derby |
| 2013 | Wise Dan (6g) Mort Fink | Charlie LoPresti John Velazquez/Jose Lezcano | Wiseman's Ferry Kentucky (Ch.) | 7-6-1-0—\$2,751,972 Maker's 46 Mile, Woodford Reserve Turf Classic, Woodbine Mile, Shadwell Turf Mile, Breeders' Cup Mile |
| 2012 | Wise Dan (5g) Mort Fink | Charlie LoPresti John Velazquez/Jose Lezcano | Wiseman's Ferry Kentucky (Ch.) | 6-5-1-0—\$2,622,037 Woodbine Mile, Shadwell Turf Mile, Breeders' Cup Mile |
| 2011 | Havre de Grace (4f) Fox Hill Farms Inc. (Rick Porter) | Larry Jones Ramon Dominguez/Gabriel Saez | Saint Liam Kentucky (B.) | 7-5-1-0—\$1,623,000 Apple Blossom, Woodward, Beldame |
| 2010 | Zenyatta (6m) Jerry & Ann Moss | John Shirreffs Mike Smith | Street Cry-IRE Kentucky (Dk. B or Br.) | 6-5-1-0—\$1,830,000 Santa Margarita, Apple Blossom, Vanity, Clement L. Hirsch, Lady's Secret |
| 2009 | Rachel Alexandra (3f) Stonestreet Stables & Harold McCormick / L and M Partners LLC | Steve Asmussen/Hal Wiggins Calvin Borel | Medaglia d'Oro Kentucky (B.) | 8-8-0-0—\$2,746,914 Kentucky Oaks, Preakness, Mother Goose, Haskel, Woodward |
| 2008 | Curlin (4c) Stonestreet Stables | Steve Asmussen Robby Albarado | Smart Strike Kentucky (Ch.) | 7-5-1-0—\$5,399,000 Dubai World Cup, Stephen Foster H., Woodward, Jockey Club Gold Cup |
| 2007 | Curlin (3c) Stonestreet Stables | Steve Asmussen Robby Albarado | Smart Strike Kentucky (Ch.) | 9-6-1-2—\$5,102,800 Preakness, Jockey Club Gold Cup, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2006 | Invasor-ARG (4c) Shadwell Stable | Kiaran McLaughlin Fernando Jara | Candy Stripes Argentina (B.) | 5-4-0-0—\$3,790,000 Pimlico Special, Suburban H., Whitney H., Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2005 | Saint Liam (5h) Mr. & Mrs. William K. Warren | Rick Dutrow Jr. Jerry Bailey/Edgar Prado | Saint Ballado Kentucky (B.) | 6-4-1-0—\$3,696,960 Donn H., Stephen Foster H., Woodward, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2004 | Ghostzapper (4c) Stronach Stables | Bobby Frankel Javier Castellano | Awsome Again Kentucky (B.) | 4-4-0-0—\$2,590,000 Woodward, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2003 | Mineshaft (4c) Will Farish, James Elkins Jr. & W.T. Webber Jr. | Neil Howard Robby Albarado | A.P. Indy Kentucky (Dk. B. or B.) | 9-7-2-0—\$2,209,686 Pimlico Special, Suburban H., Woodward, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 2002 | Azeri (4m) Allen E. Paulson Living Trust | Laura De Seroux Mike Smith | Jade Hunter Kentucky (Ch.) | 9-8-1-0—\$2,181,540 Santa Margarita H., Apple Blossom H., Milady H., Vanity H., Breeders' Cup Distaff |
| 2001 | Point Given (3c) The Thoroughbred Corp. | Bob Baffert Gary Stevens | Thunder Gulch Kentucky (Ch.) | 7-6-0-0—\$3,350,000 Santa Anita Derby, Preakness, Belmont, Haskell H., Travers |
| 2000 | Tiznow (3c) Cees Stable LLC | Jay Robbins Chris McCarron | Cee's Tizzy California (B.) | 9-5-3-0—\$3,445,950 Super Derby, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1999 | Charismatic (3c) Bob & Beverly Lewis | D. Wayne Lukas Chris Antley | Summer Squall Kentucky (Br.) | 10-4-2-1—\$2,007,404 Kentucky Derby, Preakness |
| 1998 | Skip Away (5h) Carolyn Hine | Sonny Hine Jerry Bailey | Skip Trial Florida (Gr./Ro.) | 9-7-0-1—\$2,740,000 Donn H., Gulfstream Park H., Pimlico Special H., Hollywood Gold Cup, Woodward |
| 1997 | Favorite Trick (2c) LaCombe Stables | Pat Byrne Pat Day | Phone Trick Kentucky (Dk. B. or B.) | 8-8-0-0—\$1,231,998 Hopeful, Breeders' Cup Juvenile |
| 1996 | Cigar (6h) Allen E. Paulson | Bill Mott Jerry Bailey | Palace Music Maryland (B.) | 8-5-2-1—\$4,910,000 Donn H., Dubai World Cup (not graded), Woodward |
| 1995 | Cigar (5h) Allen E. Paulson | Bill Mott Jerry Bailey | Palace Music Maryland (B.) | 10-10-0-0—\$4,819,800 Donn H., Gulfstream Park H., Oaklawn H., Pimlico Special H., Hollywood Gold Cup H., Woodward, Jockey Club Gold Cup, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1994 | Holy Bull (3c) Warren A. "Jimmy" Croll Jr. | Warren A. "Jimmy" Croll Jr. Mike Smith | Great Above Florida (Gr.) | 10-8-0-0—\$2,095,000 Florida Derby, Metropolitan H., Haskell H., Travers, Woodward |
| 1993 | Kotashaan-FR (5h) La Presle Farm | Richard Mandella Kent Desormeaux | Darshaan France (Dk. B. or Br.) | 10-6-3-0—\$2,622,468 San Luis Rey, San Juan Capistrano H., Eddie Read H., Oak Tree Inv., Breeders' Cup Turf |

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|------|--|--|--|--|
| 1992 | A.P. Indy (3c) Farish, Goodman, Kilroy & Tsurumaki | Neil Drysdale Eddie Delahoussaye | Seattle Slew Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.) | 7-5-0-1—\$2,622,560 Santa Anita Derby, Belmont, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1991 | Black Tie Affair-IRE (5h) Jeffrey Sullivan | Ernie Poulos Juvenal Diaz/Pat Day/Shane Sellers/ Jerry Bailey | Miswaki Ireland (Gr.) | 10-7-1-1—\$2,483,540 Iselin H., Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1990 | Criminal Type (5h) Calumet Farm | D. Wayne Lukas Chris McCarron/Alex Solis/ Laffit Pincay Jr./Gary Stevens | Alydar Kentucky (Ch.) | 11-7-2-0—\$2,270,290 Pimlico Special H., Metropolitan H., Hollywood Gold Cup, Whitney |
| 1989 | Sunday Silence (3c) Gaillard & Hancock III & Whittingham et al | Charlie Whittingham Pat Valenzuela/Chris McCarron | Halo Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.) | 9-7-2-0—\$4,578,454 Santa Anita Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Super Derby, Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1988 | Alysheba (4c) Dorothy & Pam Scharbauer | Jack Van Berg Chris McCarron | Alydar Kentucky (B.) | 9-7-1-0—\$3,808,600 Strub, Santa Anita H., Iselin H., Woodward H., Meadowlands Cup H., Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1987 | Ferdinand (4c) Mrs. Howard B. Keck | Charlie Whittingham Bill Shoemaker | Nijinsky II Kentucky (Ch.) | 10-4-2-1—\$2,185,150 Hollywood Gold Cup H., Breeders' Cup Classic |
| 1986 | Lady's Secret (4f) Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Klein | D. Wayne Lukas Pat Day/Chris McCarron/ Jorge Velasquez/Angel Cordero Jr. | Secretariat Oklahoma (Gr.) | 15-10-3-2—\$1,871,053 La Cañada, Santa Margarita H., Shuvee H., Whitney H., Maskette, Ruffian H., Beldame H., Breeders' Cup Distaff |
| 1985 | Spend a Buck (3c) Hunter Farm | Cam Gambolati Angel Cordero Jr./Laffit Pincay Jr. | Buckaroo Kentucky (B.) | 7-5-1-1—\$3,552,704 Kentucky Derby, Monmouth H. |
| 1984 | John Henry (9g) Dotsam Stable | Ron McAnally Chris McCarron | Ole Bob Bowers Kentucky (B.) | 9-6-1-1—\$2,336,650 Hollywood Inv. H., Sunset H., Arlington Million, Turf Classic |
| 1983 | All Along-FR (4f) Daniel Wildenstein | Patrick Biancone Walter Swinburn | Targowice France (B.) | 7-4-1-1—\$1,200,695 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Rothmans Int'l, Turf Classic, D.C. Int'l |
| 1982 | Conquistador Cielo (3c) H. DeKwiatkowski | Woody Stephens Eddie Marple/Laffit Pincay Jr. | Mr. Prospector Florida (B.) | 9-7-0-1—\$424,660 Metropolitan H., Belmont |
| 1981 | John Henry (6g) Dotsam Stable | Ron McAnally/Lefty Nickerson Laffit Pincay Jr./Bill Shoemaker | Ole Bob Bowers Kentucky (B.) | 10-8-0-0—\$1,798,030 Santa Anita H., San Luis Rey, Hollywood Inv. H., Arlington Million (not Gr.), Jockey Club Gold Cup, Oak Tree Inv. |
| 1980 | Spectacular Bid (4c) Hawksworth Farm | Grover "Bud" Delp Bill Shoemaker | Bold Bidder Kentucky (Gr.) | 9-9-0-0—\$1,117,790 Strub, Santa Anita H., Californian, Haskell H., Woodward (walkover) |
| 1979 | Affirmed (4c) Harbor View Farm | Laz Barrera Steve Cauthen/Laffit Pincay Jr. | Exclusive Native Florida (Ch.) | 9-7-1-1—\$1,148,800 Strub, Santa Anita H., Californian, Hollywood Gold Cup, Woodward, Jockey Club Gold Cup |
| 1978 | Affirmed (3c) Harbor View Farm | Laz Barrera Steve Cauthen/Laffit Pincay Jr. | Exclusive Native Florida (Ch.) | 11-8-2-0—\$901,541 Santa Anita Derby, Hollywood Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Belmont, Travers |
| 1977 | Seattle Slew (3c) Karen Taylor | Billy Turner Jr. Jean Cruguet | Bold Reasoning Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.) | 7-6-0-0—\$641,370 Flamingo, Wood Memorial, Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Belmont |
| 1976 | Forego (6g) Lazy F Ranch | Frank Whiteley Jr. Heliodoro Guistines/Jorge Velasquez/ Bill Shoemaker | Forli Kentucky (B.) | 8-6-1-1—\$491,701 Metropolitan H., Brooklyn H., Woodward H., Marlboro Cup H. |
| 1975 | Forego (5g) Lazy F Ranch | Sherrill W. Ward Heliodoro Guistines | Forli Kentucky (B.) | 9-6-1-1—\$429,521 Widener H., Brooklyn H., Suburban H., Woodward |
| 1974 | Forego (4g) Lazy F Ranch | Sherrill W. Ward Heliodoro Guistines | Forli Kentucky (B.) | 13-8-2-2—\$545,086 Widener H., Brooklyn H., Woodward, Jockey Club Gold Cup |
| 1973 | Secretariat (3c) Meadow Stable | Lucien Laurin Ron Turcotte/Eddie Maple | Bold Ruler Virginia (Ch.) | 12-9-2-1—\$860,404 Kentucky Derby, Preakness, Belmont, Man o' War |
| 1972 | Secretariat (2c) Meadow Stable | Lucien Laurin Paul Feliciano/Ron Turcotte | Bold Ruler Virginia (Ch.) | 9-7-1-0—\$456,404 Sanford, Hopeful, Futurity, Champagne, Laurel Futurity, Garden State Futurity |
| 1971 | Ack Ack (5h) Forked Lightning Ranch | Charlie Whittingham Bill Shoemaker | Battle Joined Kentucky (B.) | 8-7-1-0—\$393,300 San Carlos H., San Pasqual H., San Antonio, Santa Anita H., Hollywood Express H., American H., Hollywood Gold Cup Inv. H. |
| 1970 | Fort Marcy (6g) Rokeby Stable | Elliott Burch Jorge Velasquez | Rokeby Stable Virginia (B.) | 13-5-4-2—\$388,537 Dixie H., Bowling Green H., United Nations Inv. H., Man o' War, Washington International Inv. |